

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification, as follows:

Delete the paragraph on page 2, lines 13-19, and substitute the following:

--According to the present invention an optical identification element having a synthesized chemical attached thereto comprises: an optical substrate; at least a portion of said substrate being made of a substantially single material and having at least one diffraction grating embedded therein, said grating having a resultant refractive variation within the substantially single material at a grating location; said grating providing an output optical signal indicative of a code when illuminated by an incident light signal propagating from outside the substrate, said output optical signal being a result of passive, non-resonant scattering from said grating when illuminated by said incident light signal; and the synthesized chemical being attached to at least a portion of said substrate.--